

**From:** Steve Brewer  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/14/01 1:23pm  
**Subject:** Proposed settlement unacceptable

The proposed settlement with Microsoft is unacceptable.

The nature of the settlement itself is unacceptable because Microsoft has already shown that it does not believe its past behavior was a violation of law and it has consistently flouted consent decrees and rulings of the court in the past. There should be some remedy which actually reduces Microsoft's potential to illegally extend their monopoly into other businesses. A consent decree seems unlikely to accomplish that.

Furthermore, the language used provides loopholes for Microsoft to not release information to programmers working on open source and free software alternatives to Microsoft software, especially with respect to file formats. Even if the consent decree were followed, it would give Microsoft new tools to fight its only serious competitors.

Please reject this settlement and impose a remedy on Microsoft that will have the effect of actually limiting their ability to extend their monopoly into other businesses. Without such a remedy, it seems certain that we will be back in this same situation again soon.

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Steven D. Brewer <limako@mediaone.net>  
<http://revo.ne.mediaone.net/~sbrewer/>  
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